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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts fo publication wish to have rejected articles returned the must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

The Shipping Bill.

During the coming session of Congres Senator GALLINGER will renew his efforts to secure the passage of a bill for the extension of our merchant marine. The bill which was discussed last winter would have passed by a good majority had it not been for a filibuster led by Senators CARMACK and BLACKBURN. Neither of these gentlemen is a member of the present Congress. The bill which would in all probability have been approved had it not been for their stubborn opposition was a considerably modified form of the original measure. It retained what is at present the most important feature, namely, provision for steamship lines to South America. The principal effort of the coming session will probably be to enact the measure in the form generally approved last session.

The importance of the South American portion of the project increases every year. The imports of the various countries of that continent have increased about 60 per cent, during the last five years. Their total is now not far from \$550,000,000 annually. This country supplies only about 15 per cent. of these requirements. Our heaviest handicap is the lack of transportation facilities. Even our mail to the east coast goes by way of Europe. Vessels of size and speed ply regularly and frequently between European ports and Rio de Janeiro and the River Plate. It was recently reported that one of these ships carried a group of merchants who were on their way to Europe to place orders for \$25,000,-000 worth of merchandise. Had it been possible for them to come to this country with even reasonable comfort and speed it is not to be doubted that some of that business would have come here. The imports of Brazil and the River Plate ports amount to some \$400,000,000 a year, of which we get about 12 per cent. Steamers competing with those now running between those countries and Europe should immediately increase our sales by \$50,000,000, if not by \$100,000,000 yearly, and perhaps by even more than that amount in the near future.

Our foreign mail service now shows a profit of more than \$3,000,000 a year. A portion of that income could be spent well and wisely in the development of a mail and transportation service to South America. Our present service is little better than a disgrace to the United States as a commercial nation. The longer we delay its improvement the stronger grows the clutch of Europe on the trade with countries which are showing a splendid development and progress.

The Perplexing Situation in Portugal.

We printed last Sunday a despatch from London based on a letter from THE SUN'S correspondent at Lisbon, giving what may be termed the official account of the state of things in Portugal. Reports entirely irreconcilable with that statement were transmitted simultaneously through Madrid and assert that the Portuguese are on the verge of revolution. Let us mark first the admitted facts and then apply the tests of analogy and probability.

There is no doubt that in the last Cortes which was dissolved in May, various Government bills were defeated in the Chamber of Deputies by a combination of parties headed by ex-Premier RIBEIRO, the organizer of the Party of Regeneration. It is equally incontrovertible that some of the bills thrown out were calculated to improve the country's economic condition and that Premier BRANCO has managed to reduce the deficit for the current year from 30,000,000 to 10,000,francs without increasing taxation, chiefly by abolishing sinecures. Was his method of accomplishing this retrenchment constitutional?

That question must, it seems, be answered in the negative. King Carlos, acting on the advice of his Prime Minister, had a right to dissolve the Cortes. but the Portuguese Constitution prescribes that such a dissolution must be followed within six months by the convocation of a new Parliament and a new general election. The half year expired yesterday, and no new Cortes has been summoned. Thus the organic law of Portugal has been defied by the sovereign and Premier Branco transformed into a dictator. It may be that the support of King Carlos, the approval of Portugal's French creditors and the acquiescence of the great mass of the Portuguese peasantry may safeguard Premier BRANCO from punishment for his violation of his nation's constitution.

Much will depend, however, on the attitude of the Portuguese army and navy toward the Premier who is now ruling with usurped authority. According to the official account the army is loyal to then it has been a sweep for the Demothe sovereign and his chosen minister. except such members of it as are affected by the reduction in expenditure and the military families connected with the old administration. According to the reports transmitted simultaneously was 76,489 in the State, and in 1900 it was means of intercommunication between

1 42,000, while PARKER'S plurality in 1904 in through Madrid, much dissatisfaction the State was 57,385.

exists among the officers of the Portu-

guese army and three Generals are known

o have been relieved of their commands

It is also alleged that rebellion is ram-

pant in the navy. That Premier Branco

must have some ground for apprehend-

ing a popular tiprising seems inferable from the fact that Lisbon is now prac-

tically under martial law. The report

that Prince LUIZ FELIPE, heir appar-

ent to the throne, had called upon his

father to resign and had by way of

punishment been banished from the cap-

ital was officially pronounced a fabrica-

tion. It is an undisputed fact, however,

that the Crown Prince has affiliated

himself to the Party of Regeneration

which asserts that the King must rule

through a Minister acceptable to a ma-

jority of the lower house of Parliament

and that he Mas no right to suspend

the constitutional guarantees. The King

has arrogated such a right, however

for on the advice of the Council of

State he has decided to suspend consti-

tutional guarantees for three years or until ex-Premier RIBEIRO, and his fol-

lowers shall have agreed to the passage

of the Government bills which the eco-

nomic state of the country is said to

require. In pursuance of this unconsti-

tutional policy the official Government

organ proclaimed the other day an ex-

tension of the period of restraint upon

the liberty of the press.

Portugal is like its daughter State.

Brazil, in this respect, that the political

nfluence of the capital is preponderant

Now Lisbon, like Rio de Janeiro, is

seaport, and it follows that in a conflict o

parties the control of the navy is likely

to be decisive. If the Portuguese Op-

position should get control of the war-

ships they would soon in all likelihood

gain possession of Lisbon and Oporto

and not only would Premier BRANCO

have to resign the power he has usurped

but King Carlos himself might be ex-

Alabama.

It has become a tradition with some

Republican political machinists and the

substantial opinion of others that Ala-

bama, first on the roll call of States

in national conventions, is a political

factor of great importance because of

its alphabetical precedence. The record

Alabama did not send delegates to the

Republican national conventions of 1856

1860 and 1864. The record of the State

in the ten subsequent national conven-

tions of the Republicans, that is from

1868-The entire 18 votes were cast for GRANT of

1872-The entire 30 votes of the State were cas

for GRANT on the first and only ballot. GRANT was

1876-On the first ballot the State's vote was

SLAINB, 10; BRISTOW, 7; PIATES, 2; JEWELL, 1. Sec

end ballot: BLAINE, 16: BRISTOW, 4. Third ballot

BLAINS, 15; BRISTOW, 4; CONKLING, 1. Fourth bal

lot: BLAINE, 16; BRISTOW, 4. Fifth ballot: BLAINE

16: BRISTOW, 4. Stath ballot: BLAINS, 15: BRISTOW

4; HATES, 1. Seventh and last ballot: BLAINE, 17

GRANT, 16; BLAINE, 1; SHERMAN, 3. Second ballo

the same. Third ballot: GRANT, 17: SWEDWAY

Fourth and fifth ballots the same. Sixth and sevent

ballots: GRANT, 16: SHERMAN, 3: GARPIELD, 1. Eightl

teenth and fifteenth ballots: GRANT, T7: SHURMAN

3. Sixteenth ballot: GRANT, 16; BLAINB, 1; SHERMAN

. Seventeenth and eighteenth ballots: GRANT, 15

twenty-first, twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty

fourth, twenty-fifth, twenty-sixth, twenty-sevent

and twenty-eighth ballots: GRANT, 16: BLAINE

1: SERRMAN, 3. Twenty-ninth ballot: GRANT, 15:

BLAINE, 1: SERRIGAN, 3. Thirtieth ballot: GRANT, 16;

BLAINE, 1; SHERMAN, 3. Thirty-first and thirty-see

ond ballots: GRANT, 15; BLAINE, 1; SHERMAN, 1

Thirty-third ballot: GRANT, 15, BLAINE, 4, Thirty

fourth, thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth ballots: GRANT

1884-The vote of the State on the first bal

Was: ARTHUR, 17: BLAINE, 1; LOGAN, 1. Secon

and third bellots: ARTHUR, 17; BLAINE, 2; LOGAL

Fourth and last ballot: ARTHUR, 13; BLAIN

1886-On the first ballot the State's vote was

ALGER, 6: DEPEW, 1; HARRISON, 1; SHERMAN, 12.

Second ballot: ALORR, 7; DEPEW and HARRISON

DEPEW, 1; HARRISON, 2; SERRMAN, 10. Pourts

ballot ALGER, 10: HARRISON, 1: SHERMAN, 8. FIft)

hallot: ALOUR, 8: HARRISON, 2: SHERMAN, 9

BLAINE, 1. Sixth ballot: ALGRE, 6; HARRISON,

SHERMAN, 12; BLAINE, 1. Seventh ballot: ALGER, 6

HARRISON, 1; SHERMAN, 12; BLAINE, I. Fighth and

1892-The State's vote on the first and only ballo

Was: HARRISON, 15; MCKINLEY, 7. HARRISON WAS

1806-The delegation voted for McKrning, 19

REED, 2: and for MORTON, 1, on the first and only

1960-The State's vote was unanimous for McKrn

LEY on the first and only ballot. McKINLEY wa

1904-On the first and only ballot the vote of the

State was unanimous for ROOSEVELT, ROOSEVEL

General GRANT was without a rival

for the nomination in 1868 and 1872. It

was thus easy for Alabama to pick the

winner in those two Republican national

conventions. In 1876 the State scat-

tered and fussed and made BLAINE its

favorite while HAYES won the nomina

tion. Just so in 1880 Alabama shackled

itself to GRANT'S fortunes and GARFIELD

carried off the prize. Four years later

alphabetical Alabama stood by ARTHUR

and BLAINE won, and in 1888 the State

divided its allegiance, or whatever you

choose to call it, between ALGER and

SHERMAN only to see HARRISON run

first under the wire. Again in 1892, with

HARRISON'S renomination almost a fore-

gone conclusion, Alabama gave McKIN-

LEY good support, and yet HARRISON

won easily on the first and only ballot.

The two McKinley conventions of 1896 and

1900 and the Roosevelt convention of 1904

did not require particular foresight or

political speculation. Alabama in those

three conventions trailed along with the

Then as to Republican results in the

State: In the reconstruction and car-

petbag days of 1868 and 1872 GRANT

carried Alabama by 4,276 in the former

and by 10,838 in the latter year. Since

crats as follows: In 1876 TILDEN'S piur-

ality was 34,281; in 1880 HANCOCK'S WAS

30,322; CLEVELAND in 1884 carried the

State by 32,629, in 1888 by 61,123 and in

1892 by 52.957. In 1896 BRYAN'S plurality

prevailing sentiment.

last ballot: ALGER, 10; HARRISON, 3; SHERMAN, 5

BLAINE, 2. HARRISON Was nominated.

ballot. McKinley was nominated.

enominated.

was nominated.

each 1: SHERMAN, 11, Third ballot: ALGER.

16; BLAINE, 4. GARPIELD was nominated.

BLAINE was nominated.

ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fou

1880-On the first ballot the State's vote

BRISTOW, 3. HATES was nominated.

BLAINE, 2: SEERMAN, 3. Ninet

the first and only ballot. GRANT was nominated.

1868 to 1904 inclusive, is as follows:

does not warrant that idea

posed to the risk of deposition.

But merely for Republican national convention purposes is Alabama the political asset it is cracked up to be?

The South and Its Master.

Mr. BRYAN'S apostrophe to the Demo eratic donkey emanated from an enlightened heart. He would have been more or less than human had he withheld from that patient and devoted beast the tribute of his recognition. The country, however, will not intrude upon the affectionate interchanges between the master and the humble barnyard animal upon which he bestows a contemptuous caress in passing. What occupies the public mind is a growing sense of the felicity of the metaphor and concurrent speculation as to the effect upon the Democracy, especially at the South. when the significance thereof shall have at last unveiled itself completely.

Democrats are accustomed to the donkey jest at their expense, but hitharto they have not had their meek faces slapped with it by one of the party's beneficiaries. U. S. GRANT perceived the ass beneath the tiger's skin more than thirty years ago. Republican orators, casuists, Rigolettos and henchmen generally have made free with the parable according to the wit or dulness of the individual. That is part of the game and not offensively intended. But it is another and a very different matter when it comes to a sneer from Mr. BRYAN, who has done more to illustrate the asinine attainments of the Democracy than all the persons, events and vicissitudes of our political history since 1861. He at least should employ forbearance in speaking of the party organization which has made him what he is. He at least should preserve the illusion of respect for credulous and honest millions whose more or less intelligent loyalty has made him what he is, upon whose simple faith he has grown fat and prosperous, and without whose unquestioning devotion he would at this moment be a thing of no account-an object of derision, or, worse than even that, of absolute indifference and ignorance.

That the Democratic party is a donkey o sane person will dispute. The fact that for eleven dreary and disastrous years it has been ridden to the edge of exhaustion, if not death, by a cheap and raffish mountebank like BRYAN removes the proposition from the realm of controversy. But will the Southern Democracy relish this contemptuous appraisement from that particular source, and if so, to what extent? There is already reason to believe that the South is awakening to a realization of its folly and stupidity. There is reason to believe that it may sooner or later-perhaps sconer-reject the ass's rôle.

The Bright Bronze Poll at the White

A despatch from Thomson, Ga., the capital of the Hon. Tom Warson, to the Atlanta Constitution says that this illustrious Populist statesman and historian has been summoned to the White House.

"Just a few days ago Mr. BRYAN called on the President and outlined a plan for Government guarantee of deposits in national banks. Not Mr. WATSON, one time a candidate for President has been requested by the President to come t Washington and has accepted the invitation."

"President ROOSEVELT and I have had e correspondence on the financial situation," said Mr. WATSON, "and I have been asked to come to Washington for a personal interview." He is the only genuine "Jefferson Democrat" now on view, and he rejects Mr. BRYAN's claim to that honor. The Nebraska Jefferson's plan for a Government guarantee of bank deposits stamps him, in Mr. WATson's opinion, as a man with "no right to lead a party of Jeffersonian Democrats." It is painful to hear the Peerless and Perennial called "a whirlwind talker, an "opportunist" and so on, but Mr. WAT-

son was ever thin, bilious and severe. It is true, however, that Mr. WATSON has been a student of finance. It must have been Wall Street influence and the insidiousness of the Money Power that blocked the two main financial propositions of his that we remember best. When he was in the House of Representatives he introduced a bill to establish agricultural sub-treasuries such as the Farmers' Alliance used to yearn for and a bill to turn the gold reserve into cash Moreover, he ran for President on a platform that "demanded" a graduated income tax. Long before the first muck raking "highbrow" jutted out upon a nation not yet full of nerves Mr. WATson gave his opinion of the Senate, that bulwark of "privilege." and the Constitution, in words that hissed. It is hatural that Mr. ROOSEVELT should be eager to consult an oracle so sagacious.

Mr. Warson goes to Washington to urge Mr. ROOSEVELT to urge Congress to issue a billion of greenbacks. The general interchange of opinions between two such prudent and conservative men must be helpful to both.

Not Playing the Game.

All true sportsmen will be righteously indignant at the holiday exercises on San Juan Hill. Distinctly the residents of that strenuous section of New York are falling off in character, else they would not tolerate the revival of midsummer games at the beginning of winter. The hot season is the traditiona and appropriate time for San Juan fights with policemen, and the persons who started one in the last week of November merit the severest condemnation.

It may be that newcomers in favored territory, ignorant of its customs and practices, are responsible for this serious breach of etiquette. If this is the case older heads should cofinsel and restrain them. It is imperative that hot weather pastimes should not intrude on autumn and winter employments, and it is obvious that the games of race riot cannot be played with as much spirit and resource in cool as in warm days. For its proper development all scuttles must be open at the beginning, chimneys must be in a state of disrepair they reach only after a winter's use, fire escapes must be sufficiently obstructed, as they can be only when the mercury stands above 70 degrees, and

apartments must all be open, as they are not in such weather as that of Thursday It is most unsportamanlike, too, for the roof holders to take the police off their guard. A winter race riot is not looked for by the authorities and they cannot be expected to enter one with the same spirit they show when it is in season. Indeed, the police would be justified in showing considerable peevishness over the recent infraction of the unwritten laws of the sport, and if another incident of the kind happens those who participate in the attack on the peace officers need not be surprised if they are rebuked with violence for their conduct.

MILESUN STRUCKUR WALKER STRUCK

The circle of the scores: Carlisle beat Pennsylvania, Princeton beat Carlisle, Cor-nell beat Princeton, and Pennsylvania beat Cornell. Logic on the football field is serpent swallowing its tail. Proof for the victors, consolation for the vanquished!

Becay of Population in France

The annual statistics of population France, published this month in the Journal Official, show that the decrease in the birtle rate is steadily maintained. The number of in 1906 was 806,847; in the period 189 1905 it averaged 839,843; in the period immediately after the German war it average 960,000. The absolute increase of population in 1906 (excess of births over deaths) was 26,651; in the period 1896-1905 it averaged 56,500. In Germany in 1905 the absolute crease was 792,839; in Austria-Hungary it was close on half a million, and in the United Kingdom 493,878.

Dr. Bertillon, head of the Paris statistic department, makes some very gloomy re-marks on the new figures. "If the birth rate does not pick up," he cries, "our country is lost." He denies that other nations show the same tendency to proportionate shrinkage. Other civilized nations, he asserts, have never increased in higher proportion than at present. "Germany's present rate of increase i fourteen a thousand; thirty years ago it was only twelve a thousand; the other civilized countries show similar figures." He ascribes the shrinkage entirely to the low birth rate the death rate comparing favorably with that found elsewhere. "We are short of 400,000 births a year to put us on a level with the proportionate increase of other countries. At present we have three births to a family; what we need is four." This view is born out by the fact that while the birth rate in period, the marriage rate rose by more than 10,000. The divorce factor appears to be comparatively unimportant, the number of divorces in 1906 being only 2,500 in excess of

the average of the preceding decade.

In these circumstances the existence of an influential "national league for the increase of the French population" is evidently justiup in its programme as being "to impress on than three children is extremely respectable and has a right to public recognition and

New York's Veteran Fire Horses. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In al its long years of usefulness and honor THE Sun has had no more pathetic story, to my

nd, than that of this morning with thi SALE OF THE FIRE HORSES.

SIX VETERANS PAGS FROM THE SERVICE INTO THE MERCIES OF PEDLESS. It is then told how the city disposed of six of its faithful servants, who according to the brief announcement in the City Record

These six faithful servants were turned over at an average price of \$30 to the tende mercies of pedlers. These faithful servants the city had performed valiant services for our citizens; a thousand times were they of more value and entitled to more consideration than a thousand potheaded politicians. These six faithful servants had been accus comed to gentle treatment; they were amenable o the exacting yet glorious discipline of ou great Fire Department, and now they have peen ignobly put up at auction, and rickety slaves knocked down to owners who cannot in the nature of things treat them as

Shame upon a city that would permit such sale! Shame upon a Fire Commiss who would be a party to such a sale! Shame NEW YORK, November 28. S. E. C.

Pleasures in Store for Niagara County.

From the Cataract Journal. It is intimated that in view of the situatio in this Congressional district the order of President Roosevelt to the effect that dele gates to the next Republican national conyour One that Federal officeholders are no to be active in the selection of these delegates and are not expected to act as national convention delegates themselves, has special ap plication here. Undoubtedly it will be ac construed by some, but it is uncertain how Collector Merritt. Collector Sanders and others may regard it. There is a suspicio that in spots where the echo does not bound against the White House too loudly a few hoarse laughs will escape them.

Certainly after all these years of prosperity Collectors Merritt and Sanders are not in the same position regarding King Theodore's edict that the poor place holder was under King James when he said that he had fourteen reasons for supporting the King—a wife and thirteen children. There will be doings in the March Republican primaries, just the same

Slandering the Hokesmith "Victory." To the Editor of The Sun-Sir: As the cham-plon of distressed females and defender of that renowned bit of statuary "The Gal in the Foun-tain," in Hoke Smith's hotel in Atlanta, I would call your attention to a slanderous statement mad about the aforesaid damsel. The last issue of the aturday Evening Post has an article on the probl bition cyclone which has struck Georgia.

writer says the gal is "a bewildering gal in no lothes at all. To answer such a faise assertion only "a short and ngly word" is needed. The "Gal in the Fountain &c., during the Hon. Hoke Smith's campaign, who timorously asked the high priest who pours "co juice in a kylix" if they could see the "naked gal." Was it any wonder that persons who circulate should have their candidate beaten under a muititude of Hoke Smith ballots?

the drummers of New York, Baltimore and othe places; the celery growers of Kalamazoo; theatrical personages of the Great White Way and Hoboken; the pork packers of Chicago, K. C. and "Zinzinati, All protest against the slanders of our dear "gal."

ATLANTA, Ga., November 28. H. R. SMITH,

The Frenchwoman of Letters.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Foreigners cometimes tell us that the American woman is induly prominent, pushing and dominant in the community. At all events we don't seem to be much worse off than some Old World countries. This is how one of the most prominent of French journalists, J. Ernest Charles, describes French women of letters in the present day: "They all exhibit a mad audacity. To win fame or preserve the slender modicum which they have they ply

They write as best they can. The French language is roughly handled. But what matters our lan-guage? They shove themselves forward. They are place seekers. They grab what is not granted

And so on. And it must be remembered that French gailantry is proverbial. New York, November 29.

Moses smiled darkly. Nobody will know where I am buried," he marked, "so Roosevelt can't visit my tomb." Herewith the predecessor of the Discoverer of the ren Commandments chuckled.

Rustle Frankness.

And have you music at the church?" i asked the rufal squire. Wail, no," said he; "can't say we hev, Jest singin' by the choir,"

RESULTS ON THE CANAL.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29,--It is now held by almost everybody of good judgment here that the decision to antrust the Panama work to the Engineer Corps of the United States Army, so atrongly advocated month ago by THE SUN, has been abundantly jus tified. Never before has so much work been done, never has the work been done with so little friction, and at no time hitherto has there been so clear a prospect of an early and satisfactory completion of the enterprise.

This statement is not based on the reports

of officials disposed to magnify their own achievements, nor does it rest on the testimony of that group of engineering experts, the House Committee on Appropria tions, which under the competent leadership of Chairman Tawney "spent three days in examination of mechanical and engineering work, inspecting the quarters, the hospitals and looked into everything in connection with the service in the zone." Its basis in an accumulation of undisputed and indis putable facts and figures. The Tawney party claims to have found a way to save a million dollars on the appropriation, but with all desires for every wise economy it may be suggested that these three day investigators had better make no attempt to curtail appropriations without the full approval of the men on the job. Colonel Goethals and his able assistants know wha is needed much better than do the amateurs whose stay on the Isthmus only a little exceeded the duration of Mr. Poultney Bige low's celebrated visit. In his report Colonel Goethals says:

Many, thousand employees have been secure an effective working organization has been pe fected, and the recruiting system put in operation is capable of furnishing more labor than can be advantageously used. The employees are well sheltered and in general well fed; the salaries paid sheitered and in general work is progressing amouth are satisfactory and the work is progressing amouth ly. A change from these favorable conditions is the method of proaccuting the work would diso the method of prosecuting the work would diso ganize all existing conditions and would undoubtedly increase the estimated cost and time of completing the canal.

Information received from reliable and impartial sources confirms these statements and enforces the idea that there should be no cheeseparing in appropriations. The men in charge may be trusted to use the funds placed at their disposal wisely and with all possible economy. They will not spend money simply for the sake of using the full amount of the appropriation. It would be better for them and for the country that they show an unexpended surplus than that their work should be in any way crippled by an insufficient appropriation.

The House Committee on Appropriations does not include all the "watchdogs" of the national Treasury. Possibly Colonel Goethals and a few others are qualified for entry in that class.

Arguments Suffragettes Have to Pat Up With To THE EDIFOR OF THE SUN-Sir: A despatch from England to THE SUN says that the medical students at Birmingham broke up a woman suf-frage meeting by throwing tubes of sulphureted hydrogen among the ladies on the platform and pelting them with dead mice. The author of the despatch, whose animus against the won evident, calls this attacking the suffragists their own tactics." All that the women have done has been to pelt

their opponents with questions. If they had buried dead animals or ill smelling chemicals at the heads of Cabinet Ministers it would certainly have been quoted as proof of the unfitness of women to vote. But no one argues that all men ought to be dis-franchised because of the unseemly behavior of the Birmingham students.

All through the disturbances the most extrem

proceedings of the women have been mildness itelf compared with the actions of English work-ingmen agitating for the franchise not many years ago. Miss Elizabeth Robins, in her new woman suffrage novel, "The Convert," makes one of the speakers at a meeting say:
"You men discovered years ago that you weren"

going to get justice just by deserving it, so when you got stred of asking politely for the franchise you took to smashing windows and burning down custom houses and overturning Bishops' carriages, while we—why, we haven't so much as upset a curate off a bicycle!"

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL. DORCHESTER, Mass., November 2

A Selfish Happiness.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Speaking of apple: I've had mine. I am not telling live, for the remaining two pounds and a half hangs with the turkey in a basket at the wind

Cunners' Deafness. From the Washington Star

"The imminent danger," says Surgeon General Rixey, "of the serious and in a measure preventable accident, rupture of the cardrums, demands eration in preparation for or battle, and every man should be compelled to employ piedgets of cotton or a worthy substitute for filling the auditory orifices. The necessity of compulsion in a matter so rational may be surprising, but the fact is neither officers nor men take kindly to the use of such artificial protection, though the practice is more universal than it was a few years ago. Many of the gun crews in the navy suffer from deafness of variable duration after target practice, and in a severe naval action it is probe ble that the impact of suddenly compressed air or repeated violent air vibrations consequent upon big gun are and the bursting of the enemy's shells would produce not only deafness (temporary or permanent) among the personnel of the ship nized result, that would have the effect of physics

Prevention can alone deal with it, and the med cal bureau hopes that some action may be take by the Navy Department. The bureau has been making some study of the various expe devices suggested for such protection with a view ultimately of indicating those deserving recogni-tion and from among which choice may be made but the adoption of any one to the entire exclusinecessary nor desirable. Action is needed only to the end that some efficient protection be mad obligatory among those exposed to the concust of gun fire or shell explosion, and the bureau has ommended a general order to that effect.

Republican Victory in Kentucky.

Green Hill correspondence Bera Citizen. Hurrah! For the Republican party has gained There has not been a wedding in our community for more than a year until after the election. No several have got married and others are wanting to Samuel Evans, who has been a lifelong Democrat gave his daughter to Andy Spence, and they were married at the bride's home. Milt Farley and Rhoda Hoskins were married a few days ago. Hamton Minter, our county superintendent, and Mis Emma Minter, daughter of Bud Minter, were mar ried yesterday at the bride's home, William Ander son officiating. Mr. Minter is a perfect gentler and has a host of friends.

From the Elizabethtown News. broken up over the election, and in consequence has turned out beard all over his face and declar that he will not shave until a Democratic Governo is elected.

Roylsed Barvard Cheer.

From the Boston Record. The Harvard cheer with the nine long Harvard at the end has always been considered one of the ost inspiring of all the college cheers. The inne vation is a thrilling crescendo on the last vards, so that the cheer goes as follows: Harvard, Harvard, Harvard,

Haivard, Harvard, Harvard. (louder) Harvard (still louder), Harvard,

(Cheer leader's arms wave frantically here, organs burst) HARVARD, Swiss Mountain Delivery. From the London Globe.

The Swiss postal department is making arrange ments for the distribution of mails in many moun tainous districts hitherto maccessible during the skis, and a whole corps of postmen have been training for the service.

Standard of Popularity. Knicker-Is he popular?

Bocker-Yes, he has as many friends as a shauf

THE FENANCIAL SITUATION. The Original and Surprising Spring

a Small Manufac To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SU: Not being a financier I cannot say whether the Administration's 3 per cents will serve their intended purpose or not. I am sure they were efore they come due, since they come due it the season when money is always scarce. But even if they are replaced before they aggravate the normal tight money of next fall they are sure to be condemned because they fall short of reaching, let alone curing, the real evil, or hindrance to resumption of business, which confronts us, that is the inability of the redirected to resump their usual excepof the railroads to resume their usual expen-ditures for new equipment, trackage and the

stration of his loss of appetite for railroad securities. What or who has brought about this state of affairs, or what the division of responsibility therefor is, it would be bootless at this time to attempt to ascertain; the fact at this time to attempt to ascertain: the fact which interests every one is that the railroads cannot get, at a fair rate, even a small part of the money needed to carry on necessary improvements, and that resumption of their expenditure is in fact, if not in theory, a necessary condition precedent to the revival of business on a sound foundation.

Personally Ithink that the Harriman revelations the little basics and a sound foundation.

ions in the Union Pacific and the roads, plus the financing of the Rock Island tailroad a couple of years ago, aggravated by Harriman's absolute refusal to eliminate him is largely responsible for existing conditions I do not lose sight of the fact that the tall of "watered stock" and of the "necessity of squeezing water out" is responsible in part Neither do I lose sight of the fact that the formation of corporations composed of directors of parent concerns, having as their object the milking of the parent concerns, through n some degree. That the public has become degree. That the public has become ducated to the difference between the poration in which there are no intermediate

poration in which there are no intermediate milking directors and the other kind is shown by the tape is the difference between the support given to United States Steel, with an extreme drop of about 33 points from its highest, and to Amsigamated, with an extreme drop of more than twice that number of points. But, I repeat, it is profiless to attempt to apportion the responsibility for the existing state of affairs; it is "a condition and not a theory which confronts us."

If we wait for business revival until the time the railroads can get the necessary money at fair rates in the regular way, from investors, we are likely to wait a very long time. This would entail waiting until nvestors had regained their former confidence (appetite, and this in turn would mean waiting until the whole railroad situation had been cleared up and adjusted to new conditions and new legislation. I know no one who would venture an opinion as to the length of time this would require, but even the most optimistic must admit that it would be measured by years, not by months.

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venture an opinion as to the length of time this would require, but even the most optimistic must admit that it would be measured by years, not by months.

On the other hand, I think it might as well he admitted that the old order of things has passed away. The day of unlimited stock and bond issues, as well as that of rebating and rate wars, is of the past. Equally the leaving of the statutes in their present shape under which a trustee, if his trusteeship takes the form of a railroad directorship, can milk his ward, is unthinkable. If anything were necessary to ram that conclusion home, Mr. Harriman's counsel, John G. Milburn, late of this city, furnished it when he asked so jaunting the other day in reply to a question having reference to that sort of thing, "What are you going to do about it?"

The abuse of the public, of investors and of the business community by the men who have been guilty of the trickery and double dealing of which I have spoken is a concrete demonstration of the lack of real intelligence in the men who have committed and permitted it. In view of this, their plea against outside regulation, based on the assertion that a "high grade of intelligence" is needed to carry on their particular business, is "to laugh." They have demonstrated that they are really and essentially ignorant.

I presume you will admit that the criterion of real intelligence is, in the last solution, the understanding and acceptance of "the square deal." To put it plainly, every evil the railroads are suffering from to-day is simply the reflex action of their own ignorance, and whether that ignorance took the form of swindling, browbeating and imposing on or simply playing petty larceny, tricks on the public makes very little if ang difference.

As this Government once before, for the sake of the best interests of the whole people, lent its credit to the railroads and got the money back again. I suggest that it do so again, not necessarily in the asme way nor under the same conditions. A loan of \$500,000 could be mad

to wit, rebating, stock watering, favoritism in car service, grafting directors and the like, without hesitation.

Besides this, the bonds issued would afford a basis for more circulation, and this added circulation would go far to stop the present very popular cry for "an elastic currency." This cry for elasticity is in some of its every day aspects positively amusing. I often wonder whether the average person who howls for "an elastic currency" really knows what he means. My best guess on the subject is that elasticity is generally construed only que way, that is to mean expansion. I have seen very few people who wanted the other end of elasticity, the contraction of credits, which means being forced to do business on your own capital only. To a man up a tree it seems that if legislation were enacted making it obligatory on the Secretary of the Treasury to deposit every day the receipts from customs and taxes, instead of locking them up as a matter of law and letting them out as a matter of favor, a decided step would have been taken in the direction of sound finance. Asto maintaining a gold reserve, let us be honest for once and pay off our greenbacks. They were and are in effect a forced loan. Let the national banks be obliged to keep their 25 per cent. reserve in gold. Let us get down to hard pan. Incidentally this would enable us to go out of the warehousing business as regards precious metals.

The foregoing suggestions are not the result of omniscience or of expert knowledge, but are made simply as the result of an endeavor to think straight, to see the truth, irrespective of whether the truth is palatable or the reverse, and to out out the national disposition to think we can play tricks with the laws of finance complicated by temperamental worship of demagogy.

SMALL MANUFACTUREER.

Work on the northern Nigeria railway is now n active progress. Rails from England have been landed and 2,000 men are at work laying tracks. Extensive deposits of pig tron have been discovered along the line of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway, near Fort William, Canada.

tigration into Canada via ocean ports from to September totalled 158,598, as compared with 109,777 in the same period of last year. Fro the United States the arrivals decreased The area planted to indigo in Madras Presidence

British India, this year is the smallest for five years, the total number of acres being 78,800, or 19 per cent. less than the acreage of 1906. The crop is reported in fair condition.

The acreage in sugar cane in Madras Presidency

is 38,700, 12 per cent. less than last year.

The Government of British India is having much success with its experimental jute farm in the Madras

agency. Twenty-eight dollars worth of jute an acre was realized this year. Consul Dennison of Bombay reports that a company has recently been formed in that city with \$7,500,000 capital for the purpose of constructing in

India blast furnaces, open hearth steel furnaces rolling mills, coke ovens and other plant necessary for the manufacture of pig iron, steel rails, bars plates, &c., and to acquire mining rights over ver large and valuable deposits of iron ore. A site to the new works has been selected near Sint Junction. on the Bengal-Nagpur Rallway, where the three essentials, iron ore, coal and limestone, can be cheaply assembled. The enterprise is to be a distinctly Indian concern, the capital being Indian and the directors native Indians.

A trade paper published in Calcutta says that in all of vast India there is only one regular cottonseed oil mill, and that is in Burma. Nearly all of India's

large annual production of cottonsced goes out of Consul General Michael of Calcutta cotton oil milis, not only for the profit in the mil but also for the sale of American machinery. Irrigation on a large scale is to be undertaken by the Turk sh Government in Mesopotarnia in order to restore some of the old prosperity to that country, once renowned for its fertility but rapidly

pecoming a desert. Education is to be compulsory in Abyssinia. The Emperor has so decreed for all male children over the age of twelve. The education will be already been engaged in Egypt, and the building

schools is advancing rapidly.

· Milder Ferm. Stella-What are you trying to introduce?

Mr. Howells in Belightful Mood. The avven stories told by Mr. Howelis in the volume entitled "Between the Dark and the Daylight" (Harper & Brothers) are thoroughly enjoyable. They have, we should say, no purpose except to be rea and to entertain, and they gain by that limiting fact. It was a curious affliction that had betalien the very interesting Miss Gerald in the first story here. Through a shock she had lost her memory utterly. though her fine intelligence remained other-wise unimpaired. The account of Dr. Lanfear's meeting with this young lady at San Remo is a very effective piece of work. The surprise is acute, and the reader's curiosity is immensely awakened. All the nice inquiry (the psychopathic inquiry) that follows, Dr. Lanfear having taken her case in hand professionally, may not fill the mind of the reader with a perfect illumina-tion (it would be remarkable if it should do that), but it is skilfully-very subtly and suggestively-handled, and th of it is not to be questioned. It is not evident that Dr. Lanfear really did much in a professional way, though it may be that everything that he did was most thoughtfully and wisely directed to a pur-pose and that we should see this if we could see as clearly as he could. What we are permitted to see clearly is that the doctor fell is love with his patient and that in some measure anyway he allowed himself to hold her under an unprofessional and purely, emotional observation. What his unassisted psychopathic efforts would have ome to we cannot know, for Miss Gerald recovered her memory, as she had lost it, through accidental shock. Her recovery sed us, of course, but the method of it we felt to be disappointing and old, recalling as it did the man who jumped twice into the bramble bush and the practice, now obsolete, in asylums where lunatics were regularly agitated by machinery upon the theory that a disordered brain well shaken up might dispose itself in proper order again on settling. We think that the doctors

NEW BOOKS

we were. But an excellent story, and with the stories that follow, too, the reader will be delighted. The eidelons that Brooks Alford had were disturbing enough. We can well think that it was painful for Alford to look straight at the face of Mrs. Yarrow, the charming widow, and all the time he was ooking to see nothing but a fountain of sea water spouting forty feet up into the air. For Mrs. Yarrow to seem to terminate capitally in such a manner was monstrous. Of course the look that he bent upon the lady when he was seeing this vision was a stare. It was much out of place at a hotel supper table. She must have found it annoying, and we thought it angelio of ber to say merely, with the utmost good nature, that he made her afraid that something was the matter with her hair. He had sidolons in his room, and a whole mob of idolons beset him in the railway train when he was coming back from a visit to his doctor in Boston. He was in the smoker and it was positively full of eidolons. pitied him, we hope, sufficiently, but we nust say that we thought it worth while having eidolons when we found him back at the seaside hotel, too late for the regular

ust have been disappointed scientifically

and in his psychopathic character, though

otherwise of course he was as happy as

supper, and Mrs. Yarrow plying him with privately made Welsh rabbit and tea. Why the story has it "rarebit" instead of rabbit we do not know; the wrong spelling seems to subtract the humor that belongs to the name; but probably it is no great matter. Certainly the rabbit drove away the eidolons, for the story says as much as that they fied as soon as the che to bubble. Alford felt, we read, "a great weight lifting from his heart. In its there sprang up a joyous gratitude toward Mrs. Yarrow, who had saved him from them, from himself. An inexpressible ten-, from himself. An inexpressible teness filled his breast; the tears rose to his eyes; a soft glow enveloped his whole being, a warmth of hope, a freshness of life renewed, encompassed him. He wished to take her in his arms, to tell her how he oved her." He did not do it; not then. He te all the cheese and drank all the tea. Walsh rabbit is said often to summon eidolons, but this one dispersed them; it was doubtless made as it should be. Of course the reader sees at this point a way by which it would be possible for Alford to be rid of his eidolons permanently. The story goes on to tell whether Alford saw as much.

The story of the memory that worked overtime and the story called "A Case of Metaphantasmia" are highly readable and amusing. So are the other stories. An excellent book. It has been a delight to

Six Books for the Young.

Sir Percy Fitzpatrick's "Jock of the Bushreld" (Longmans, Green & Co.) is just the book for boys. Jock was a bull terrier, a dog of high courage and exceptional understanding, and he needed all his gifts in the South African wilderness, where his many and exceedingly interesting adventures came to pass. This is a large book, containing an abundance of stories of hunting and wild life. The narrative is admirable. There are full page pictures and a great number of excellent marginal illustrations by Mr. E. Caldwell

Mary De Morgan's book "The Wind-fairies and Other Tales" (E. P. Dutton & Co.) is so good that it is not surprising to see it in a new edition. We know the danger of enthusiastic admissions, how likely they are to prove embarrassing, but now and again in reading these tales we caught oursalves thinking that fairy stories were as good as realistic fiction. At any rate we found it amusing and charming to read here about Kesta, the vain dairymaid, and about Nanina's sheep and the Gypsy's cup and the Rain Maiden and the magic out and the youth whose gift of marvellous song was lost because a girl kissed him. These are well written stories, ingenious and beaunful. Olive Cockerell has supplied them with some very agreeable woodcut illustrations.

We never were diviners, and we were surprised accordingly to find in Prof. Harry Thurston Peck's "Hilds and the Wisher (Dodd, Mead & Co.) a very readable and amusing fairy story. Hilds had a fairy godmother, and she met further with an elf and a witch, both of whom were of service to her. Her father was a gentleman with humor, and her Aunt Maria a lady devoid of this quality. Both of these will entertain the reader, as will the several experiences and adventures of Hilda and the concluding account of her six dresses and her marriage to the Priece. We thought that the young medical character, Dr. Sniffen, was treated somewhat too severely by the story, but perhaps not. The professor may him, and there may be reasons why he should be thoroughly crushed. The tale is pleasantly illustrated by Mélanie Norton

Margaret Sidney's "Five Little Peppers in the Little Brown House" (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company, Boston) is the latest and the eleventh volume treating of the Pepper family. It may be read here how the Peppers thought they were going to have chicken pie for Thanksgiving, but how they were disappointed in this and had to use a goose of advanced years and than-